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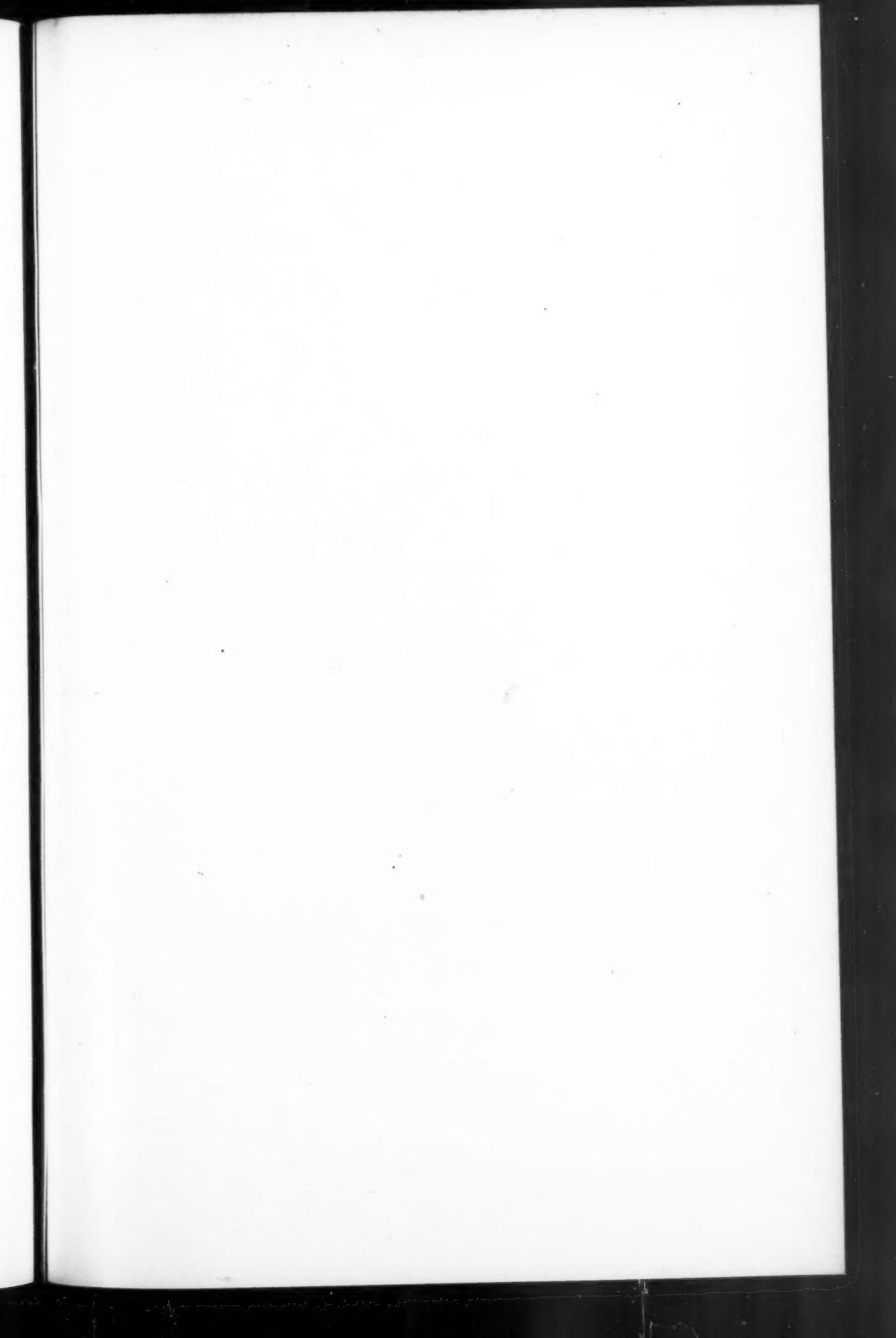
THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY was established in 1869 to promote the Natural Sciences and to diffuse a general knowledge of them among the people, and it is in cordial coöperation with all similar institutions throughout the world. The Museum authorities are dependent upon private subscriptions and the dues from members for procuring needed additions to the collections and for carrying on explorations in America and other parts of the world.

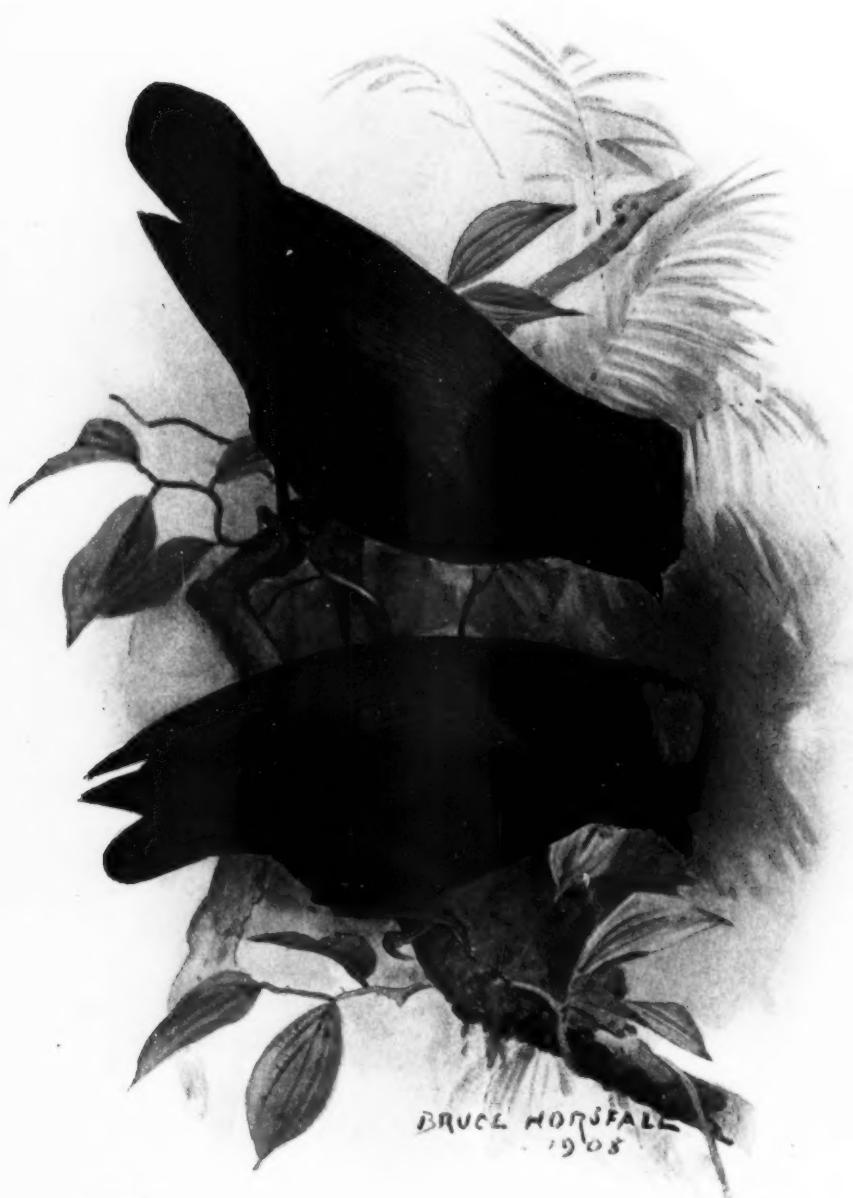
The membership fees are,

Annual Members.....	\$ 10	Fellows.....	\$ 500
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All money received from membership fees is used for increasing the collections and for developing the educational work of the Museum.

The Museum is open free to the public on every day in the year.





Frontispiece.

SOUTH AMERICAN "MANAKINS."

From the Bulletin of the Museum, Volume XXIV, Plate XXV.

The American Museum Journal

VOL. VIII

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SOUTH AMERICAN "MANAKINS."

THE illustration used as a frontispiece this month is a colored plate from the current volume of the Museum *Bulletin* (Volume XXIV, Plate XXV) used in the description of a new species of bird, *Chiroxiphia napensis*, by Mr. W. DeWitt Miller of the Department of Ornithology. The new form is the lower one on the plate, the upper one being *Chiroxiphia boliviana*, a species described some years ago by Dr. J. A. Allen, Curator of Mammalogy and Ornithology. These birds are natives of South America, where they are known as "Manakins," a loose term applied to several quite different genera. Specimens of the Manakin are on exhibition in the general collection of ornithology in the north hall on the second floor (Hall No. 208).

THE MALARIA MOSQUITO LEAFLET.

THE Museum issued during the past month a Guide Leaflet on the Malaria Mosquito, with numerous illustrations most of which were made from the series of enlarged models that were recently installed in the Synoptic Hall (No. 107 of the Ground floor) or from drawings made from life and other sources in the preparation of the models. The Guide Leaflet is No. 27 in the Museum series and may be obtained at the Museum.

THE USE OF THE CHILCAT BLANKET.

THE Chilcat blanket, many fine examples of which are to be seen in the collections of the Museum, is fast disappearing from among the Tlingit Indians, and of the older specimens, so beautiful in technique, coloring and design, few or none remain, hence it is of

the utmost importance to record pictorially the use of the robe. This is the reason for publishing here a series of photographs taken by the author when cruising in Alaskan waters in early days when aboriginal customs still prevailed.

To-day all has changed, the influx of white settlers, the establishment of missions and schools, and the opportunity to earn a considerable wage in the fisheries and mines have divorced the natives from aboriginal customs, and the rich ceremonial that characterized the life of this region and suggested the use of this robe has disappeared, a truth to which the great empty communal houses that once resounded to the beat of drum and the rhythmic chant of hundreds of voices bear silent witness, in their moss-covered timbers fast falling to decay. So those who have not seen the old life, and those who follow and never can see it, must know of the robe only as a museum specimen hung on the wall or draped over a lay figure.

The primary use of the robe was as a blanket, worn over the shoulders upon dance or ceremonial occasions by both sexes. It was the dress of the Chief, as distinctive of the Northwest Coast as was the eagle feather war bonnet of the Plains. Draped over the shoulders, only the middle of the blanket showed to advantage across the broad of the back, and for this reason the principal figure occupied the central field, and that it might be the more fully displayed, the dancer often entered the house of entertainment backwards and so danced to his place among the performers. With the accumulation of property and the increased number of blankets, almost every household possessed one or more, which were in the keeping of the head of the family and were carefully preserved with the other totemic emblems in great cedar chests.

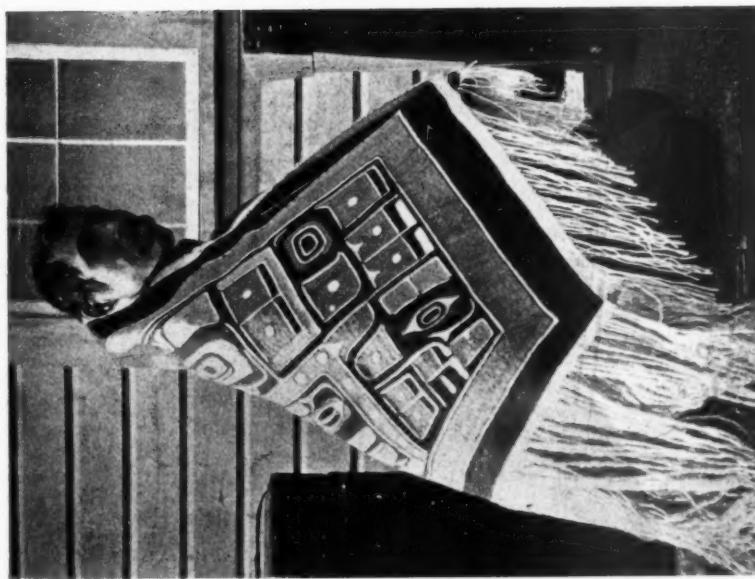
The sleeveless shirt, which was similar in material, weave and character to the blanket, was worn by the men only, and was rare. While some show an extremely conventionalized design in which the characteristic features of the animal are accentuated, and the minor parts are represented more as ornaments, placed at the fancy of the artist and difficult of recognition, the majority are distinguished by their realism, in which the figure is outlined with its members occupying relatively natural positions, although the more prominent features are often exaggerated. The front of this dress being the ornamental part, the wearer always faces the audience.

When death approaches and the spirits of those who have gone before



Emmons, Photo.
YELHLH GOU-OU.

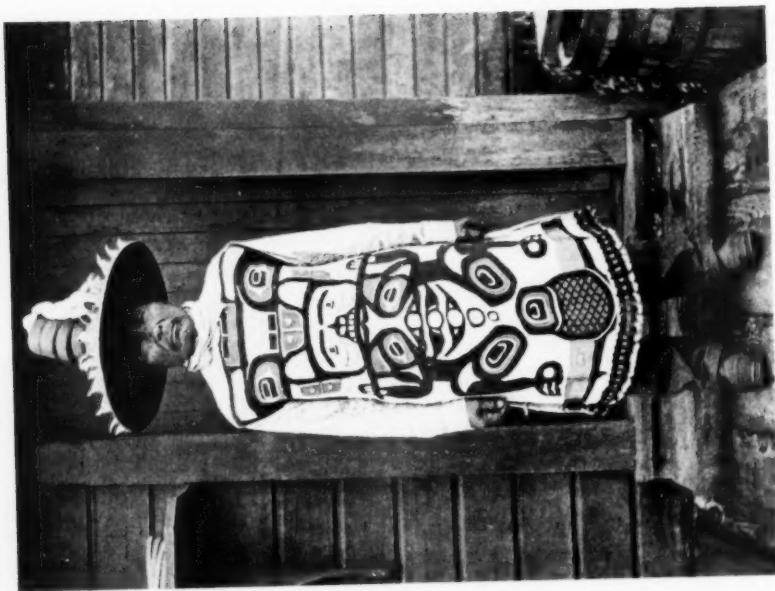
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Emmons, Photo.
DAUGHTER OF CHARTRICH

Emmons, Photo.

JOE-KENNEL-KU.



Emmons, Photo.

THREE CHILCAT CHIEFS.



return to whisper words of comfort and assurance to the sick, he is carefully dressed for the final journey, and occupies the place of honor opposite to the doorway, while around him are laid the family head-dresses, robes and totemic emblems and nearby the blankets.

After death, during the four-day period of mourning, when the corpse is seated in state, the blanket serves the purpose of a shroud. When cremation has been accomplished and the ashes have been collected and deposited in the grave house, the blanket may be hung on the outside as a token of honor to his memory; and here, the sport of the elements, it finally disintegrates and disappears.

The photographs used in illustrating this brief note require more explanation than can be placed beneath the figures. All were taken by the author in the early eighties, while the blankets and shirts were still in common use among the Chilcat. The figure at the left on page 67 is of Yehlh Gou-ou, chief of the Kon-nah-ta-tee family, in his family blanket which bears a totemic design. The weaver having no knowledge of perspective, the representation of the emblematic animal is much conventionalized. All the parts of the animal are represented, though the members have been separated from their fellows and so distorted in order to meet the demands of the pattern that they are recognizable only by an expert. The right hand figure shows the daughter of Char-trich, the chief of the Kar-qwan-ton family of the Chilcat tribe, dressed in the family robe bearing the brown bear as its emblem. She wears a hat made of spruce root and has around her shoulders the rope girdle made of the inner bark of the red cedar which is often used to keep the blanket in place.

Page 68 presents at the left a group of three Chilcat chiefs of the Kar-qwan-ton family who were met at Kluck-wan village. All wear the cedar-bark girdles around their shoulders and have on their heads hats of ceremonial significance. The other figure on page 68 is of Joe-Kennel-Ku, chief of the Da-she-ton family of the Hootz-ah-tar tribe, dressed in the rare sleeveless shirt of blanket work which was worn only by men. The emblem is the beaver. The chief's totemic hat is particularly noteworthy.

Page 71 is devoted to pictures of Kitch-Kook and Cou-de-nah-haw. Kitch-Kook is the chief of the Kuse-ka-dee or more properly the Kharse-ka-dee or Kharse-hit-ton family of the Sitka tribe. He is shown in his family sleeveless shirt of elaborate blanket work bearing the family

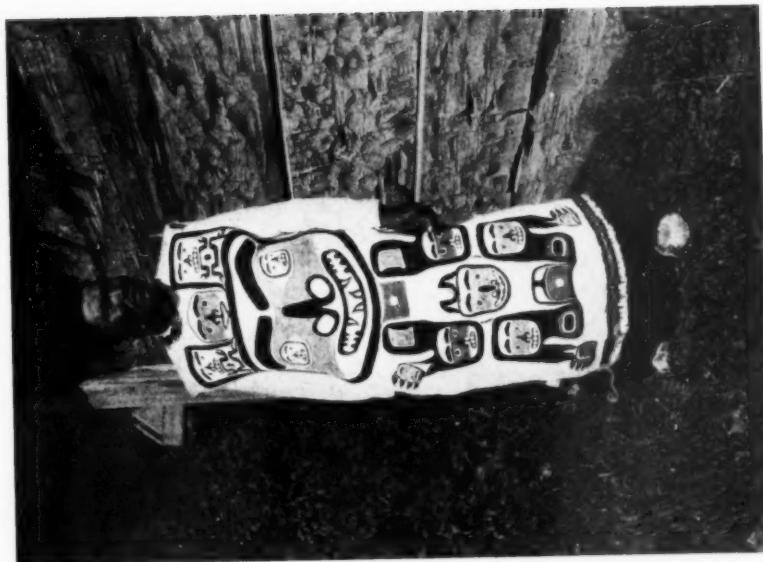
emblem, the bison. The traditions of this family go back to a home in the interior where the bison was found in abundance. In their ceremonial designs the animal is represented as standing. The head is placed at the top, with the body below. The forefeet are on either side of the jaw, the hind feet in the lower corners, the "eyes" just above the hind feet represent the hip-joints. The man wears on his head an elaborate shaman's, or chief's, head-dress and has a shaman's rattle in his right hand. Cou-de-nah-haw, a chief of the Kar-qwan-ton family, is standing beside one of the old native houses made of hewn logs. His sleeveless shirt shows his family emblem to be the brown bear.

The illustration on page 72 shows the final use of the blanket in the ancient Chilcat culture. The most precious article in the wardrobe of the chief, it was placed on the front of his grave house after his death, as is represented in this view in 1885 upon the banks of the Chilcat River.

GEORGE T. EMMONS.

NEW MATERIAL FROM THE CONGO FREE STATE.

THE Museum has recently received an additional assortment of material from the Congo Free State. The new shipment contains a considerable number of specimens not found in the old collections. To the representative series of Congo musical instruments there are now added a large xylophone with gourd resonators, a zither, some marimbas (native pianos) with bamboo keys, and a beautifully polished ivory horn with incised ornamentation. There is a fine set of fetich figures, some of phallic character, and a valuable shaman's mask with upturned proboscis. The industrial arts are represented by decorated earthenware, masterly specimens of Bakuba woodwork and baskets and feather-caps of an astonishingly complex manner of weaving. Bark boxes from the northern section of the State have original lids of carved human heads. The military equipment of the natives is illustrated by three cuirasses of pachyderm hide and a series of shields representing various types of manufacture. Some highly ornamental adzes were used as insignia of native royalty, and there are also some carved sticks which served as badges of distinction.



Emmons, Photo.

COU-DE-NAH-HAW



Emmons, Photo.

KITCH-KOOK



Emmons, Photo.

GRAVE HOUSE OF A CHILCAT CHIEF.

PAINTINGS OF MT. PELE.

THE Museum is fortunate in having secured as a loan exhibit the series of eight paintings of Mt. Pelé, Martinique, made by the late Professor Angelo Heilprin of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences and Yale University, who was one of the leading geographers of the country. Professor Heilprin visited Martinique during the great eruptions of 1902 and 1903, first as the delegate of the National Geographic Society and afterward on his own account. The paintings now at the Museum were made from sketches, photographs and other studies in the field and are valuable not only from an artistic point of view, but also from their giving a record of the impressions of an observer who was a scientist as well as an artist.

The paintings have been installed in the lobby of the central hall (No. 204) of the second floor and will be of interest to those who have known Professor Heilprin personally and through the medium of his vivid printed and oral descriptions of the tragedy of Martinique that resulted from the most interesting as well as one of the most destructive volcanic eruptions of historic times.

PRESERVED TATTOOED HEADS OF THE MAORI OF NEW ZEALAND.

WHEN Captain Cook published the account of his famous first voyage around the world, which was made in 1768-1771, he described the forms of skin-decoration which he found in vogue among the natives of the South Sea Islands. Europeans had never before heard of such practices and were correspondingly astonished. Cook's rendering of the native term for the process and the result was "amoco," a word that is now written "moko." The decoration is more commonly known to us, however, as "tattooing."

The most remarkable work was found among the Maori of New Zealand and the preserved tattooed heads of the chiefs and other prominent men finally commanded such a price among souvenir collectors that many murders were committed for the sake of the heads, and in 1831 the government of Sydney, Australia, then in control over New

Zealand, prohibited the trade in Maori heads. The practice of tattooing gradually died and more than a generation has passed since it ceased to exist. The heads are now extremely scarce, hence the Museum considered itself particularly fortunate in securing last June, as noted in the October JOURNAL, the famous Robley collection. The collection comes as the gift of the late President Jesup.

Major-General G. Robley of the British army, who made a close study of the subject of tattooing while he was making his collection, states that the old-time Maori tattooer took an artist's pride in his work,



TATTOOED MAORI HEADS FROM NEW ZEALAND.

and the result, not being easily accomplished, was highly prized when completed. As may be seen from the photographs reproduced on this page the designs are intricate and really beautiful, and the skill of the artist must have been great to reproduce them with such accuracy on the uneven surface of the human face, particularly in view of the extremely tedious and painful process that was employed.

The tools used, which are represented in the collection, were narrow comb-shaped chisels made from the wing-bone of a sea-bird. The chisel was driven by tapping with a little mallet quite through the skin.

Then the tattooer rubbed into the wound a pigment made from the powdered charred resin of the "kauri" or "rimu" tree. This process left deep blue-black grooves with raised borders, and is entirely different from the method common in other parts of the world, in which needles are used and the skin left smooth. After the advent of white men in the South Seas, iron chisels took the place of the bone tools and the tattooers produced finer tracery, while the furrows left were not so deep. The illustration on this page shows two of the ancient chisels and one of



MAORI TATTOOING CHISELS AND FEEDING FUNNEL.

the carved wooden funnels that were used in feeding a man while his face was swollen by the wounds due to the tattooing.

According to General Robley, only the heads of prominent men were preserved after death. The principal object was to keep alive the memory of the dead, either of great friends or powerful enemies, and the "moko mokai," as they were called, supplied the place of statues and monumental records. In the case of a departed chieftain, his preserved

head was a visible sign that in some mysterious way his spirit was still present among his people.

The old embalming consisted in the removal of all the interior of the head and drying in smoke after a careful steaming or even baking. The form and features were fairly kept, and the identity of the deceased was easily recognized, for the tattooing kept its place exactly on the face. A few heads retain the original eyes or have been provided with false ones; but usually the eyes of the slain were gouged out and swallowed by the victorious warrior that he might absorb the spirit of the enemy, and the eyelids were closed, since the Maori thought that they were in danger of being bewitched, if they looked into the empty orbits.

The collection is on exhibition in a case on the south side of the Peruvian Hall (No. 302 of the gallery floor).

MUSEUM NEWS NOTES.

THE MUSEUM has received through gift by C. H. Senff, Esq., a rare and valuable collection consisting of more than one hundred specimens of old Filipino knives, swords, spears, daggers, battle axes and other weapons which were collected some years ago by Capt. C. B. Hagadorn, U. S. A. This forms a most welcome addition to our ethnological series.

SINCE our last issue the following members have been elected: Life Member, Mr. ALFRED G. DALE. Annual Members, Messrs. FRANK I. COBB, GEORGE F. CANFIELD, RICHARD S. FRENCH, G. A. CRAYEN, AUGUST LEWIS and CHARLES MARTIN CLARK and Mrs. OGDEN CODMAN.

AMONG the expeditions which are in the field or are about to go out either wholly or in part for the American Museum, mention may be made of the following:

THE DEPARTMENT of Vertebrate Palæontology will continue its explorations in the Permian of Texas, in charge of Dr. E. C. Case; in the Cretaceous of Montana, in charge of Mr. Barnum Brown; in the Eocene of Wyoming, in charge of Mr. Walter Granger, and in the

Miocene of Nebraska, in charge of Dr. W. D. Matthew and Mr. Albert Thomson.

MR. FRANK M. CHAPMAN, Curator of Ornithology, and the bird artist, Mr. L. A. Fuertes, are in Florida collecting material for the habitat groups illustrating the Spoon-bill and the Ivory-billed Wood-pecker, as was noted in the April JOURNAL.

MR. ROY C. ANDREWS of the Department of Mammalogy has gone to Vancouver Island for the purpose of spending several months at the whaling stations on that coast. His work will be the securing of photographs, notes and measurements, which will furnish the data for a preliminary study of the Pacific species of whales. The entire scientific knowledge of these forms rests on the observations of Captain Scammon, made more than thirty years ago, which have never been verified. If conditions are favorable, an endeavor will also be made to add several skeletons of the Pacific whales to the Museum collection of Cetacea.

HON. MASON MITCHELL, from whom we have already received valuable material, as noted in the JOURNAL, continues to act for us as a volunteer collector of mammals in northern China.

MR. ARTHUR DECARLE SOWERBY of Tai-Yuan-Fu, Shansi, China, has started upon a journey of at least six months' duration through eastern Asia, in the course of which he will collect small mammals for our Department of Mammalogy.

COL. A. E. WARD of the British Army is collecting birds and small mammals for this Museum gratuitously in Kashmir. Col. Ward has already sent us one shipment of specimens all of which were new to our collections.

CAPTAIN B. D. CLEVELAND of New Bedford, Mass., is soon to start upon a sealing and whaling expedition to the Antarctic Seas. He has been commissioned to procure for the Museum seals, whales, penguins and other animals making their home in and around those waters.

CAPTAIN M. L. CRIMMINS, U. S. A., is collecting small mammals and birds for us in the Western States as a volunteer assistant.

MR. WILLIAM RICHARDSON of Matagalpa, Nicaragua, is collecting mammals and birds in that region for the Museum. He has sent in some valuable material including specimens of the harpy eagle, the otter, the brocket deer and many rare carnivores and rodents.

For the Department of Anthropology, Mr. Harlan I. Smith will continue in Wyoming and Idaho the archaeological research which he began last year; Dr. R. H. Lowie leaves New York this month for the Mackenzie River region north of Lake Athabasca, where he will begin anthropological studies among the Athabascan tribes, and during the latter part of the season he will continue work already begun among the Northern Plains Indians of the United States; Mr. Alanson Skinner will collect anthropological data and specimens in the James Bay region of Canada, and, particularly, among the Indian tribes of Labrador; Mr. Gilbert L. Wilson takes up anthropological work among the Mandan and Hidatsa Indians of North Dakota; Dr. J. R. Walker is devoting his time to the study of special points in the ethnology of the Dakota Indians, chiefly on Pine Ridge Reservation, and Professor Howard Richards is in China gathering anthropological material.

HON. HUGH M. SMITH of Washington, D. C., is doing volunteer collecting of anthropological material in the Philippine Islands for us in connection with the biological survey of the group which has been undertaken by the Bureau of Fisheries of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

CAPTAIN GEORGE COMER is continuing his valuable work among the Eskimo of the Hudson Bay region, whence he has already brought the Museum much important material.

MR. V. STEFÁNSSON, the Arctic explorer, together with Mr. R. M. Anderson, left New York about the middle of April for an expedition down the Mackenzie River to its mouth and eastward along the coast of the Arctic Ocean. Mr. Stefánsson will study the ethnology of the Eskimo tribes inhabiting the region, and Mr. Anderson will make zoölogical studies and collections along the route traversed.

MR. G. A. McTAVISH is collecting anthropological material and insects in Tahiti and Mr. W. H. R. Rivers, an English anthropologist,

is gathering anthropological material and data for us in the other islands of the Society group.

DR. B. E. DAHLGREN and Mr. Hermann Müller of the Department of Invertebrate Zoölogy are in the Bahamas collecting material and making studies for the reproduction of a coral reef with its associated molluscan and other life.

Dr. E. O. HOVEY, Associate Curator of Geology, left New York on April 16 for the West Indies to continue his studies for the Museum upon the volcanoes of the Lesser Antilles. He will devote particular attention to Mt. Pelé of Martinique and the Soufrière of St. Vincent, in order to learn the changes which have taken place since the violent eruptions of 1902 and 1903.

MR. E. P. VAN DUZEE of Buffalo is in Florida collecting insects for our Department of Entomology. He will visit Georgia for the same purpose before returning to New York.

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THE exhibition showing the congestion of population in New York City was so popular that it was continued for a week beyond the original period planned for it and closed on March 29 with an attendance of 41,589 visitors to its credit during the three weeks that it was open.

THE EASTERN ART TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION will hold its convention and exhibition in the auditorium and adjoining corridor from May 14 to 16 inclusive.

THE next number of the JOURNAL will be that for October, 1908.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

Public meetings of the New York Academy of Sciences and Affiliated Societies are held at the Museum according to the following schedule:

On Monday evenings, The New York Academy of Sciences:

First Mondays, Section of Geology and Mineralogy.

Second Mondays, Section of Biology.

Third Mondays, Section of Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry.

Fourth Mondays, Section of Anthropology and Psychology.

On Tuesday evenings, as announced:

The Linnaean Society, The New York Entomological Society and
The Torrey Botanical Club.

On Wednesday evenings, as announced:

The New York Mineralogical Club.

On Friday evenings, as announced:

The New York Microscopical Society.

On Saturday afternoons, as announced:

Field excursions of the Torrey Botanical Club and the New York
Mineralogical Club.

The programs of the meetings of the respective organizations are published in the weekly *Bulletin* of the New York Academy of Sciences and sent to the members of the several societies. Members of the Museum on making request of the Director will be provided with the *Bulletin* as issued.

During the summer, the meetings of the Societies will be discontinued except for the field excursions, special notice of which will be sent to the members of the several societies providing for them.

The American Museum Journal

EDMUND OTIS HOVEY, *Editor.*

FRANK M. CHAPMAN,
LOUIS P. GRATACAP,
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